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COUNTY OPEN TO PARTNERSHIP ON HYDRO-ELECTRIC DAM

Milwaukee, WI – The Milwaukee County Board’s Parks Energy & Environment Committee received a feasibility study from Titus Energy Management Services regarding the potential installation of a 650-750 kilowatt hydroelectric facility at the Estabrook Park Dam. The concept would provide a new source of renewable energy while creating a new funding source to repair the dam.

“I am pleased that the Committee has endorsed this idea,” said Supervisor Theodore Lipscomb. “It is my hope that this will lead to a meaningful public-private partnership that will benefit County residents by repairing the dam and generating renewable energy in a cost-effective manner.”

Last year, Arthur Harrington, the head of the Environmental and Energy Team at Godfrey & Kahn, and Murray Sim, National Practice Director - Energy Mgt. Services with Titus, suggested that the County explore the viability of hydroelectric as a potential benefit to repairing versus removing the Dam. The County authorized the feasibility study last fall under an agreement with the City of Glendale to share the \$15,000 cost.

After Estabrook Park Dam repairs are made by Milwaukee County, the report recommends installation of a hydroelectric facility at the dam. Such a project presents an option for not only producing renewable “green” energy, but also provides “seed” funds for dam repairs as well as ongoing dam maintenance costs. The proposed hydroelectric facility could provide *partial* funding for dam repairs by capitalizing the hydroelectric facility and dam infrastructure with a combination of public and private funding and utilizing tax benefits and other economic incentives.

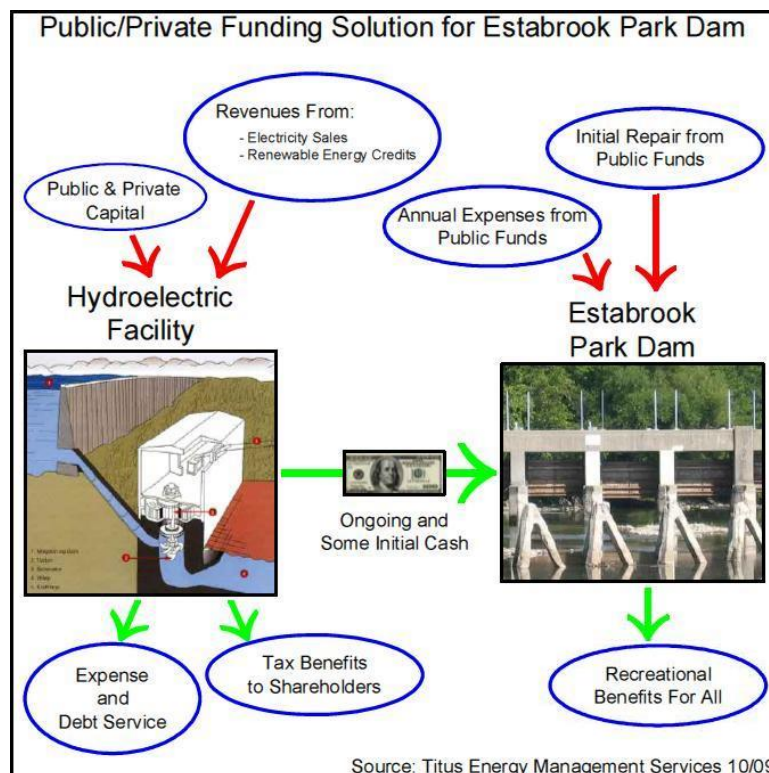
“The dam must be in good structural condition to provide the energy potential to run the hydroelectric facility profitably, so the primary condition for moving forward with a hydroelectric facility is repair of the Dam,” Supervisor Lipscomb said. “Titus is also recommending the installation of a fish ladder to support the Milwaukee River ecosystem while preventing the spread of the invasive sea lamprey.”

The Titus report suggests a public-private partnership whereby the hydroelectric facility would be located on privately owned land at the southwest end of the spillway. The site has no technical barriers to installation, and the estimated \$4 million project would begin only after the dam repairs are completed.

The project owners would “purchase” the right to use of the water in the impoundment pool under a long-term agreement with the County. These funds and ongoing water use payments could then be used to pay down debt associated with the dam repair. A privately owned hydroelectric facility could take advantage of tax incentives not available to the County.

“I’d like to thank Mr. Harrington, Mr. Sim, and the entire team at Titus for initiating this hydroelectric study as an investment in our community,” Supervisor Lipscomb added. “The hydroelectric option can provide ‘green power’ and an economically feasible solution to repair the Estabrook Dam.” The Parks, Energy & Environment Committee approved a policy statement today that expresses openness to a public private partnership on a hydroelectric facility near the Estabrook Dam.

To download the full Estabrook Dam hydroelectric feasibility report, go to <http://www.titus-us.com/energy/TitusEstabrookDamHydroReport.pdf>.



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